

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
UTILITIES AND ENERGY**

**JULY 2000**

***MEMBERS:***

***Sen. Richard J. Carey, Chair***

***Sen. Carol A. Kontos***

***Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell***

***Rep. Thomas M. Davidson, Chair***

***Rep. Patrick Colwell***

***Rep. Charles C. LaVerdiere***

***Rep. Bruce S. Bryant***

***Rep. Monica McGlocklin***

***Rep. William R. Savage***

***Rep. Donald P. Berry, Sr.***

***Rep. Harry G. True***

***Rep. Richard H. Duncan***

***Rep. Richard W. Rosen***

***Staff:***

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**ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**July 2000**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet ([www.state.me.us/legis/opla](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla)).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CON RES XXX*..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*..... House & Senate disagree; bill died
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*..... One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
- EMERGENCY*..... Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*..... Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*..... Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY*..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
- INDEF PP*..... Bill Indefinitely Postponed
- ONTP*..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
- OTP ND*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
- OTP ND/NT*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
- P&S XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
- PUBLIC XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
- RESOLVE XXX*..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
- UNSIGNED*..... Bill held by Governor
- VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

*David E. Boulter, Director*  
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101 & 107

gas pipeline utilities and gas utilities other than gas utilities over which the commission's jurisdiction is limited to safety issues.

**LD 2317**

**An Act Increasing the Authorized Indebtedness of the Veazie Sewer District**

**P & S 71  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL	OTP-AM	H-832 H-866 DAVIDSON

LD 2317 proposed to increase the debt limit of the Veazie Sewer District from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 subject to referendum.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-832)** proposed to replace the bill. The amendment, subject to approval in a district referendum, proposed to:

1. Increase the debt limit of the Veazie Sewer District to \$2,000,000; and
2. Allow the district to increase its debt limit in the future through the referendum process without further legislative approval.

The amendment also proposed to add an emergency to the bill.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-866)** proposed to change the wording of the question to be voted on to focus on the increase in the debt limit.

***Enacted law summary***

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 71, subject to approval in a district referendum, increases the debt limit of the Veazie Sewer District to \$2,000,000 and allows the district to increase its debt limit in the future through the referendum process without further legislative approval.

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 71 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 30, 2000, subject to approval in a district referendum.

**LD 2335**

**An Act to Revise the Charter of the Madawaska Water District**

**P & S 66  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AHEARNE	OTP	

LD 2335 proposed to revise the charter of the Madawaska Water District to delete references to a section of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A that has been repealed and to clarify the procedures under which the district may establish a higher debt limit and issue its notes and bonds.